

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 109056

65

ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY D/PW:FASIEVERTS:HST

APPROVED BY EA--MR.MILLER

EUR/WE--MR.BARBOUR

DOD/ISA--DR. SHIELDS (SUBSTANCE)

EA/VN--MR. WENZEL

S/S:RKUCHEL

S/S:RKUCHEL

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O 092241Z MAY 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY MANILA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

CINCPAC IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 109056

EXDIS - MIL ADDEES HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AEMR, VS

SUBJECT: REMAINS OF MARINES IN SAIGON

REF: STATE 107163

1. ICRC OFFICIAL LAURENT MARTI, IN WASHINGTON FOR CONSULTATIONS WITH DEPARTMENT AND AMERICAN RED CROSS, INFORMED DEPTOFF IN CONFIDENCE THAT SENATOR KENNEDY (D., MASS.) AND POSSIBLY OTHER MEMBERS OF CONGRESS HAVE ASKED UN SECRETARY GENERAL WALDHEIM TO TRY TO ARRANGE RETURN OF BODIES OF TWO MARINES FROM SAIGON. AT WALDHEIM'S REQUEST, WINSPEARE OF GENEVA UN OFFICE HAS RAISED SUBJECT WITH ICRC, WHO SAID THEY WOULD BE PREPARED TO HELP, ALTHOUGH THEY HAVE HAD NO CONTACT WITH THEIR REPS IN  
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SAIGON FOR PAST THREE DAYS, AND THAT AS FAR AS ICRC

KNOWS, THEIR REPS HAVE HAD NO CONTACT THUS FAR WITH NEW AUTHORITIES IN SAIGON.

2. DEPTOFF (SIEVERTS) ADVISED MARTI IN CONFIDENCE THAT USG HAS APPROACHED FRENCH GOVERNMENT ON THIS HUMANITARIAN MATTER, NOTING THAT RED CROSS FLIGHT MIGHT BE USED TO TRANSPORT BODIES FROM SAIGON IF AND WHEN SUCH FLIGHTS RESUME (REF A).

3. SUGGEST GENEVA CONFIRM FOREGOING WITH ICRC MAKING CLEAR OUR STRONG INTEREST IN ARRANGING EARLIEST POSSIBLE

RECOVERY OF THESE REMAINS.

4. FOR PARIS; SUGGEST YOU INFORM GOF OF ICRC'S WILLINGNESS TO ASSIST (AND THEIR LACK OF CONTACT WITH NEW AUTHORITIES), MAKING CLEAR WE HOPE FRENCH EMBASSY SAIGON WILL PURSUE THIS ON URGENT BASIS.

5. PARIS 11819 JUST RECEIVED. WE WOULD HOPE FRENCH COULD AT LEAST VERIFY THAT BODIES ARE IN ADVENTIST HOSPITAL. IF THEY RELUCTANT TO DO THIS PERSONALLY, PERHAPS THEY COULD WORK THROUGH A JOURNALIST OR A LOCAL EMPLOYEE.  
KISSINGER

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